

THE SEATING & MOBILITY PROVISION PROCESS

The Road to a Successful Outcome

SELECT THE TEAM

- Client has choice of therapist and vendor representative
- Finding a therapist/authorizer: Consult the Assistive Devices Program (ADP), your preferred vendor, Homecare Support Services (HCSS), your physician or a peer
- To choose a vendor: Consult ADP or ask therapist/authorizer to provide a list of local vendors; obtain recommendation from peers
- Caregivers, friends, and/or family members should be included as part of the team



- Determine size and options/features (from assessment findings)
- Complete equipment set up/trial as required or appropriate
- Consider all available equipment options
- Discuss how funding may be obtained for each item



ASSESSMENT

- The therapist is responsible to assess the client needs and facilitate the process with the entire team

COMPONENTS OF THE ASSESSMENT:

- Interview/review of health history, client concerns, environmental considerations and daily activities
- Physical assessment of client in wheelchair and on solid flat surface (*plinth or mat*)
- Measurements of client and wheelchair system
- Discussion of client goals for seating and mobility system

EQUIPMENT selection / prescription



KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL ASSESSMENT:

- An assessment form for complete documentation
- Measuring tools (*rigid tape measure, goniometer, camera*)
- Thorough hands-on evaluation, with client transferred between sitting surfaces and moved through different postures/positions
- List of client likes/dislikes about the current seating and mobility system
- A caregiver and transfer equipment (*transfer board/sling*) to assist with transfers
- Determination of needs and goals for the new seating and mobility system
- If client needs are beyond therapist skill-set, obtain consultation and ask for help from colleagues or refer client elsewhere

FUNDING application/ approval

- Funding options; government, insurance, self pay, charities/associations
- Discuss the anticipated wait-times for funding approval
- Be aware! Some funding agencies do not allow for equipment to be ordered prior to funding approval



- Equipment ordering is completed once funding is approved/secured
- Vendor completes order form and sends to manufacturer(s)
- Discuss wait-times for equipment delivery

EQUIPMENT ordering



- Set-up wheelchair and seating components based on client-specific measurements and needs
- Final design and fabrication of custom components
- Electronics programming
- Client and caregiver education/training
- More than one session is often required



DELIVERY & FITTING

LIFE WITH THE NEW SEATING & MOBILITY SYSTEM

- Client and caregiver should monitor for issues/concerns with the wheelchair and seating components
- The client should notify the vendor if service/repair issues arise (*routine maintenance should be scheduled*)
- In the event of changes in the client's physical/functional status, the client should contact the therapist to request a follow up visit/reassessment



Ontario Society of
Occupational Therapists

Select the Team

Assessment

Equipment Selection/Prescription

Funding Application/Approval

Equipment Ordering

Delivery & Fitting

Life With The New Seating & Mobility System

REFERENCES:

RESNA Position Papers and Service Provision Guide: <http://www.resna.org/knowledge-center/position-papers-and-provision-guides>

WHO Wheelchair Guidelines:

[http://www.who.int/disabilities/publications/technology/English%20Wheelchair%20Guidelines%20\(EN%20for%20the%20web\).pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/disabilities/publications/technology/English%20Wheelchair%20Guidelines%20(EN%20for%20the%20web).pdf?ua=1)

Standardized Seating Measures:

http://www.pva.org/atf/cf/%7BCA2A0FFB-6859-4BC1-BC96-6B57F57F0391%7D/Lib_Waugh%20Guide%20to%20Seating%20v2%20Measures%20Revised%20Ed.compressed.pdf

Assistive Devices Program Policy and Administration Manual (*Mobility Devices*):

https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/adp/policies_procedures_manuals/docs/mobility_devices_man.pdf